



# HIPAA Early Implementation

## Industry Solutions – Testing & Compliance Verification



Electronic Healthcare Network Accreditation Commission (EHNAC)  
Standard Transaction Format Compliance System

# STFCS



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# STFCs – What is it?

- ◆ Compliance Verification and testing tool based upon the HIPAA ANSI X12N Implementation Guides
  - Compliance Verification
    - Process to ensure that the standards are implemented in a uniform manner according to the HIPAA ANSI X12 Implementation Guidelines.
  - Testing (Internal & between trading partners)
    - Quality
    - Quantity
    - Business (Industry)



# Testing - Quality

- ◆ Confirm EDI mapping
  - Application to ANSI ASC X12 transaction
  - ANSI ASC X12 transaction to application
- ◆ Assure cost effective & efficient transmission.
- ◆ Provide information for decision making.
- ◆ Validate data dictionary, utilization of code sets, and assure unambiguous data content.
- ◆ Identify change impact on prior versions/releases/sub releases.



# Testing - Quantity

- ◆ Assure translation performance.
- ◆ Provide a "proof of concept" mechanism prior to deployment.
- ◆ Provide information to determine the most feasible tactical implementation plan in deployment.
- ◆ Highlight issues prior to mass deployment. Provides the capability to address these issues prior to implementation.



# Testing – Business (Industry)

- ◆ Assure industry business needs are met.
- ◆ Provides an opportunity to work in concert with the various entities involved in the implementation.
- ◆ End to End or Loop testing
- ◆ Parallel processing
- ◆ Go Live!



# STFCs – How does it work?

- ◆ WEB Based Tool
- ◆ Requires authentication of users
- ◆ Upload Test Files to secure Web site
- ◆ Compliance testing  
software automatically analyzes the test file against the established HIPAA implementation guide.





## STFCs – How does it work?

- ◆ Produces a digitally signed web page that flags any discrepancies.
- ◆ Following a successful test, the reply will confirm that the submitted transaction set is syntactically correct and therefore is validated for acceptance by any trading partner.
- ◆ Logs subscribers which have passed compliance
- ◆ Compliant transaction library (Reference Library)



# STFCs – What STFCs Checks

STFCs checks transactions on three levels.

1. Envelope

Segments Checked:



2. Structural

- Transaction set is checked – ST to SE

3. Data Element

- Each data element is checked.





# STFCS – What Not Checked

- ◆ Implementation information contained in free-form notes
  - Data elements that contain specific formatting
  - X12 semantic notes

E.G. Premium Payment Guide (004010X061)

TRN03 must contain the Federal Tax ID Number preceded by a 1.

TRN03 is a situational, alphanumeric string with a fixed length of 10 characters.

STFCS will not check if the first character was a “1” but will check that there are up to 10 valid characters.




Standard Transaction Format Compliance System - Microsoft Internet Explorer

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## Standard Transaction Format Compliance System

**Ready for Business** The ANSI ASC X12N Implementation Guides expected to be named in the Final HIPAA Transaction Standard Rule were initially published in May 1999 and annotated in November, 1999. Some will be annotated one more time. STFCS will revise the validation tables for the transactions listed below within 30 days of the publication of the final HIPAA Transaction Standard Rule expected late in June 2000. The current validation tables are based upon the May 1999 publication.

- 270 - Eligibility Request
- 271 - Eligibility Response
- 276 - Claim Status Request
- 277 - Claim Status Response
- 278 - Claim Review Request
- 278 - Claim Review Response
- 820 - Premium Payment
- 834 - Enrollment
- 835 - Claim Payment
- 837 - Professional Claim
- 837 - Dental Claim
- 837 - Institutional Claim

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# STFCS-What are the Benefits?

- ◆ Establishes a single objective site to provide feedback on transaction compliance
- ◆ Use to resolve implementation disputes between trading partners
- ◆ WPC which publishes the X12N HIPAA Implementation guides developed and manages STFCS for EHNAC



# STFCs-What are the Benefits?

- ◆ Verifies that a company can actually send or receive HIPAA X12N compliant transactions.
- ◆ Increases the efficiency of implementation due to reduce testing time required.
- ◆ Provides a reference library of compliant transaction for testing.



## STFCs - Cost?

- ◆ \$595/year, which includes the registration fee and 250 tests
  - Additional 100 tests for \$100
- ◆ Annual renewal is \$395, includes 250 tests + carryover from previous year
- ◆ All EHNAC Accredited companies receive the service free of charge



# Other Testing & Compliance Verification Tools

- ◆ Foresight Corporation
  - Provisto – Free web base testing tool
  - EDISIM
- ◆ EDIFECS
- ◆ EDI Translators
  - HIPAA Tool Kits





# EDI Resources / Education

- ◆ Skill set requirements
  - Health care knowledge
  - EDI knowledge
- ◆ Resources with both skills are very scarce
  - Recommendation
    - 1) Find people with healthcare knowledge first
    - 2) Training requirements
      - EDI Basic
      - EDI Tools
- ◆ WPC – EDI Partners
  - “Introduction to Healthcare EDI”
- ◆ WEDI / DISA / AFEHCT and others



# Conclusions...

- ◆ Compliance and testing tools exist
  - BDB !

*Buy Don't Build!*

- ◆ Differences between compliance verification and testing
- ◆ Choose tools wisely
- ◆ Education is extremely important

Thank You !